

WI-346
Mary E. Lynch House
Sharptown
Private

c. 1857 and later

The two-story, five-bay frame dwelling that stands at 316 Main Street incorporates a mid nineteenth-century frame structure identified as one of the older houses to remain standing along this principal avenue in the center of Sharptown. The southern three bays of the of the structure comprise the original dwelling that probably dates around the time the lot was transferred to Mary E. Lynch in August 1857. A native of Sussex County, Delaware, Mary E. Lynch paid Jonathan and Matilda Riggin \$40 for 102.6 square perches of what was known as "Robertson's Delight." The transfer price indicates the lot would have been unimproved. When the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas was published in 1877 the map makers indicated that "Mrs. Lynch" resided at this address.

The side hall/parlor house was served by a corbeled base brick chimney stack, which appears on many mid nineteenth-century dwellings in northern Wicomico The two-story, five-bay frame dwelling that stands at 316 Main Street incorporates a mid nineteenth-century frame structure identified as one of the older houses to remain standing along this principal avenue in the center of Sharptown. The southern three fifths County. Additions to the original house extend to the west and north.

Mary E. Lynch held title to the house and lot until her death in February 1905. She died intestate and the property passed to her three grandchildren, Polly A. Culver, Elizabeth E. Culver, and Samuel N. Culver. Mary Lynch's heirs sold the house and lot to Thomas Covington in 1908.

MARYLAND HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN INFORMATION

RESOURCE NAME: Mary E. Lynch House

MHT INVENTORY NUMBER: WI-346

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA

1. Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture

2. Geographic Orientation: Eastern Shore

3. Chronological/Development Period(s): Agricultural-Industrial Transition
1815-1870

4. Resource Type(s): Single family dwelling

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. WI-346

Magi No.

DOE ☒ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Mary E. Lynch House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 316 Main Street

☐ not for publication

city, town Sharptown

☐ vicinity of

congressional district

First

state Maryland

county

Wicomico

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name

street & number

telephone no.:

city, town

state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Wicomico County Clerk of Court

Map 400, P. 411
liber 1015

street & number Wicomico County Courthouse

folio 70

city, town Salisbury

state

MD

21801

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date

☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town

state

7. Description

Survey No. WI-346

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date of move _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Historically identified as the Mary E. Lynch house, the two-story, five-bay frame dwellings is located at 316 Main Street in the center of Sharptown, Wicomico County, Maryland. The two-story house faces northeast with the gable roof oriented on a northwest/southeast axis.

Estimated to date around 1850-60, the two-story, five-bay frame house is supported on an infilled brick pier foundation, and the exterior is clad with asbestos shingles. The medium pitched gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the rear wall is a two-story, two-bay addition as well as a shed roofed section that fills the rear corner.

The main block was clearly erected in two stages, beginning with a side hall/parlor house that is defined by the three southern bays. A partially glazed front door is sheltered by a gable roofed stoop. There is an indication in the appearance of the roof where the original house meets the later addition between the third and fourth bays. Located to the left of the entrance are two window openings missing their sash. The owners are in the process of replacing the windows. The second floor windows have been replaced. The two northern bays on each floor are filled with two-over-two sash windows. The base of the roof is finished with a boxed cornice trimmed with a crown molding.

The south gable end is dominated by an exterior, corbeled brick chimney base with a single flue stack. Piercing the upper gable end are two four-pane windows. The end of the roof is finished with an extended eave with short returns at the base.

The north gable end features an exterior brick chimney as well, and it has a corbeled brick base and a single flue stack that pierces the extended eave. The attic is lighted by small four-pane windows.

Attached to the west (rear) wall is a two-story, two-bay gable roofed service wing as well as a shed roofed addition.

The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. WI-346

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The two-story, five-bay frame dwelling that stands at 316 Main Street incorporates a mid nineteenth-century frame structure identified as one of the older houses to remain standing along this principal avenue in the center of Sharptown. The southern three fifths of the structure comprised the original dwelling that probably dates around the time the lot transferred to Mary E. Lynch in August 1857.¹ A native of Sussex County, Delaware, Mary E. Lynch paid Jonathan and Matilda Riggin \$40 for 102.6 square perches of what was known as “Robertson’s Delight.” The transfer price indicates the lot would have been unimproved. When the Lake, Griffing, and Stevenson atlas was published in 1877 the map makers indicated that “Mrs. Lynch” resided at this address.²

The side hall/parlor house was served by a corbeled base brick chimney stack, which appears on many mid nineteenth-century dwellings in northern Wicomico County. Additions to the original house extend to the west and north.

Mary E. Lynch held title to the house and lot until her death in February 1905. She died intestate and the property passed to her three grandchildren, Polly A. Culver, Elizabeth E. Culver, and Samuel N. Culver.³ Mary Lynch’s heirs sold the house and lot to Thomas Covington in 1908.⁴

Due to its age the Mary E. Lynch house qualifies for listing in *Category B*, which identifies buildings of moderate architectural and historical significance.

¹ Somerset County Land Record, LW 5/469-70, 15 August 1857.

² John L. Graham, *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*. Wicomico County Bicentennial Committee, 1976, p. 21.

³ Wicomico County Land Record, EAT 61/38, 14 July 1908.

⁴ *Ibid.*

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WI-346

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

B

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Zone Easting Northing

C

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart Architectural Historian

organization Private Consultant

date 3/15/98

street & number P. O. Box 5

telephone 410-651-1094

city or town Westover

state Maryland 21871

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCP/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023
514-7600

WI-346
Mary E. Lynch House
316 Main Street
Sharptown, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 400, Parcel 411

1015/70 Harold P. Evans, Jr.
Deborah Mae Evans

to

6/18/1984 William Leon Holland
Sara Jane Holland

102.6 square perches

A J S 926/565 George Clayton Tarpley

to

8/27/1979 Harold P. Evans, Jr.
Deborah Mae Evans

A J S 834/281 Shelton E. Sewell, Jr. et ux.
Gloria H. Sewell, Howard County, Maryland

to

3/10/1975 George Clayton Tarpley

JWTS 661/589 Irving T. Messick
Blanche M. Messick

to

1/5/1958 Shelton E. Sewell, Jr.

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Mary E. Lynch House

316 Main Street

Sharptown, Wicomico County, Maryland

Chain of title continued

JWTS 629/279

Roy A. Nicholson

Harriet W. Nicholson

to

4/29/1966

Irvin T. Messick

JWTS 434/496

Elizabeth Wolff, et vir. Otto Wolff, Suffolk Co., N. Y.

to

6/25/1957

Roy A. Nicholson

Harriet W. Nicholson

102.6 acres

JWTS 345/11

Betty N. Bounds

to

1/23/1953

Elizabeth Wolff

Otto Wolff

JWTS 345/10

Elizabeth Wolff

Otto Wolff

to

11/23/1953

Betty N. Bounds

102.6 square perches

WI-346

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Mary E. Lynch House
316 Main Street
Sharptown, Wicomico County, Maryland
Chain of title continued

IDT 213/490

Irving L. Covington
Radie P. Covington

to

10/24/1938

Elizabeth Wolff

102.6 square perches and being the same land of which
J. Thomas Covington was died siezed and possessed
Will JAH 1/186 left property to son Irving L. Covington

EAT 61/38

Polly A. Culver
Elizabeth E. Culver
John W. Culver

to

7/14/1908

Thomas Covington, Sharptown

102.6 square perches \$1,100

being the same land that Jonathan Riggins and Matilda J.
Riggins conveyed to Mary E. Lynch, 8/17/1857,
LW 5/469-70, and said Mary E. Lynch died intestate in
February 1905 leaving to survive her three grandchildren
Polly A. Culver, Elizabeth E. Culver, Samuel N. Culver,
and the said Samuel N. Culver and Helen L. Culver sold
and conveyed their right, title and claim to Polly A.
Culver and Elizabeth E. Culver, 1/26/1906, EAT 48/521

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Mary E. Lynch House

316 Main Street

Sharptown, Wicomico County, Maryland

Chain of title continued

Somerset County

Land Record

LW 5/469-70

Jonathan Riggin

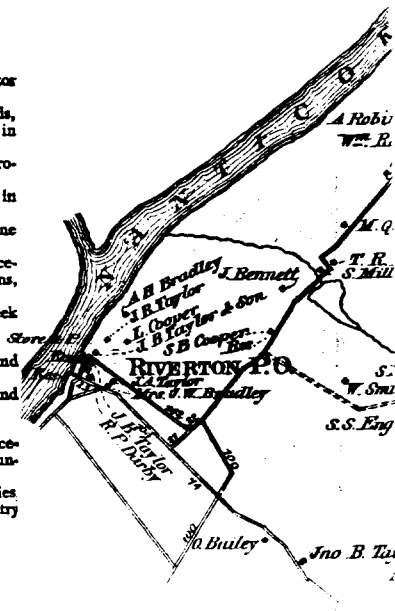
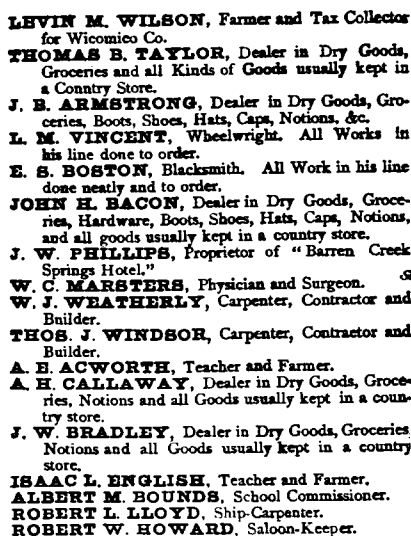
Matilda J. Riggin

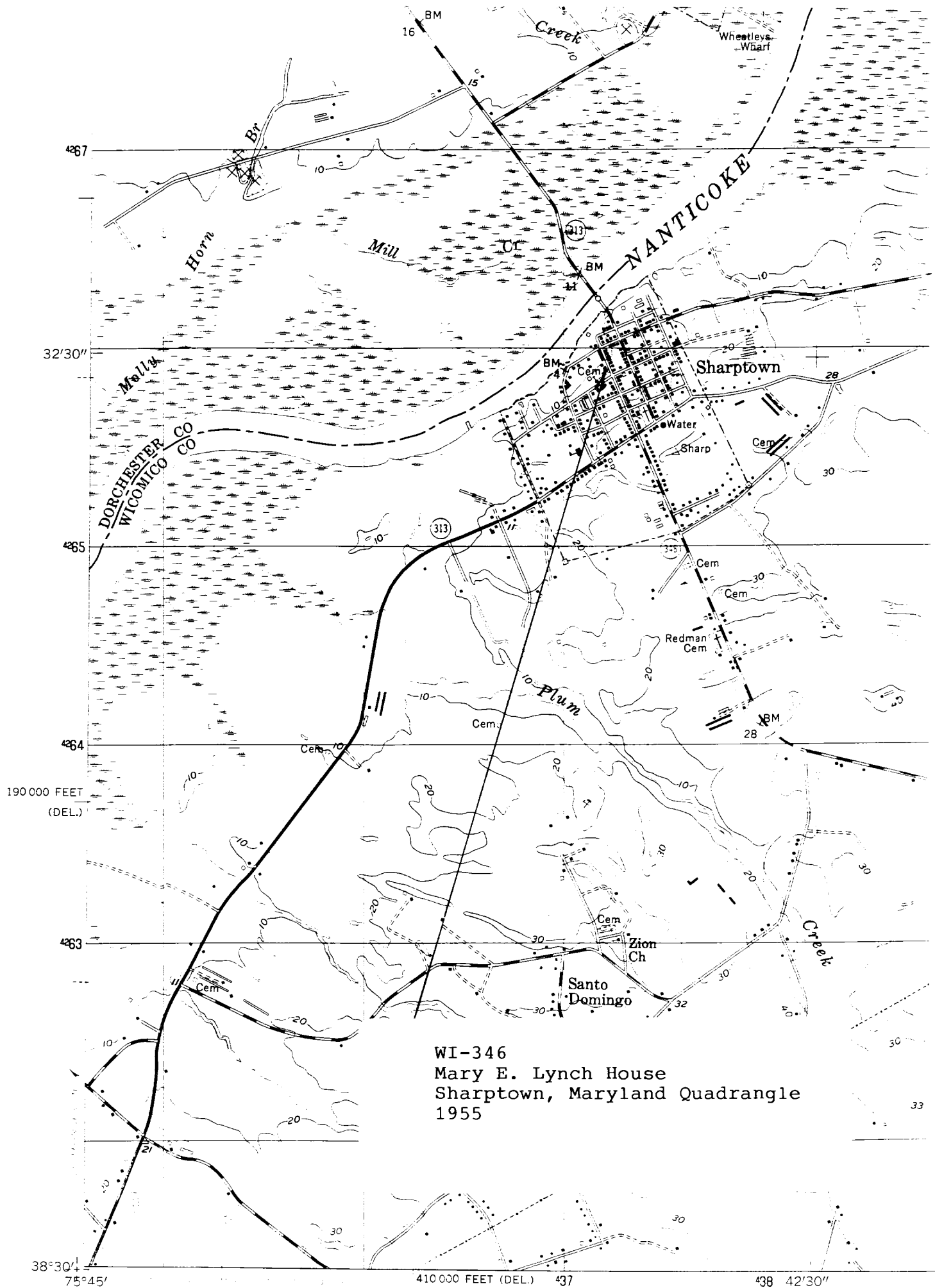
to

8/15/1857

Mary E. Lynch, Sussex County, Delaware

\$40.00 "Robertson's Delight" 102.6 square perches





Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Produced by GCS, NOS NOAA, and USCE